

NEW SOUTH WALES.

---

# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

No. 156, April 28, 1944.

---

Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

---

SYDNEY:

ALFRED HENRY PETTIFER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1944.

[Price 3d.]

## SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

## 1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts. (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1943.													
March ...	13	13	22	5	15	10	12	21	17	44	53.	24	44
April ...	144	111	157	89	133	156	127	156	148	54	39	38	48
May ...	82	192	128	49	124	112	176	94	118	153	283	384	216
June ...	63	49	48	36	51	66	55	50	53	25	19	34	25
July ...	53	58	87	71	67	58	63	96	83	4	12	5	6
August ...	105	96	120	82	105	88	103	106	103	112	224	231	156
September ...	110	118	120	115	116	111	125	123	122	124	144	120	128
October ...	98	79	100	64	90	93	74	85	83	156	104	189	147
November ...	175	197	163	115	170	149	204	162	171	215	220	158	209
December ...	89	51	30	4	50	76	52	14	32	212	125	106	176
1944.													
January ...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178
February ...	70	78	11	112	58	83	56	11	32	29	70	12	37
March ...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

## 2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb.† in 1942-43 and (Preliminary Estimate) 541,824,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12·3625d. sterling or 15·4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

## Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.

Month.	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
July ...	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715
August ...	217,280	191,662	128,260	105,532	303,363	272,059	195,702	189,247
September ...	276,849	269,889	180,883	158,065	580,212	541,948	376,585	347,312
October ...	290,271	288,766	195,950	173,622	870,483	830,714	572,535	520,934
November ...	168,109	166,462	159,518	128,231	1,038,592	997,176	732,053	649,165
December ...	46,775	63,866	88,943	94,774	1,085,367	1,061,042	820,996	743,939
January ...	17,462	24,821	37,213	135,652	1,102,829	1,085,863	858,209	879,591
February ...	28,676	31,461	30,274	60,931	1,131,505	1,117,324	888,483	940,522
March ...	34,609	29,000	44,208	43,493	1,166,114	1,146,324	932,691	984,015
April ...	37,414	43,583	40,835	.....	1,203,528	1,189,907	973,526	.....
May ...	38,423	36,173	41,491	.....	1,241,951	1,226,080	1,015,017	.....
June ...	29,758	37,597	56,745	.....	1,271,709	1,263,677	1,071,762	.....

† Excludes 14 million lb. of 1943-44 wool shorn early under zoning system.



## 3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1932-33	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
to 1941-42 ... ..	4,665,000	4,303,000	55,308,000	12.9
1939-40 ... ..	4,681,000	4,381,000	76,552,000	17.5
1940-41 ... ..	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5.4
1941-42 ... ..	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000	12.2
1942-43 ... ..	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17.0

The wheat yield for 1943-44 is estimated at 47,500,000 bushels. This estimate is subject to revision.

## 4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the eight months ended February, 1944, was 4 per cent. less than in the corresponding period last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest was 137s. 2d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 6d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 6d. on 6th March, 1942.

Month.	Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1935-36 to 1937-38.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	Thousand lb.				
Year ended 30th June ...	113,010	103,683	85,116	93,775	...
Eight months ended Feb.	77,136	71,319	54,102	70,530	67,788
July ... ..	4,575	5,047	4,592	5,163	3,313
September ... ..	6,879	6,453	5,850	5,952	4,933
December ... ..	12,146	11,365	8,608	12,032	13,079
January ... ..	14,089	14,453	6,664	13,044	12,821
February ... ..	13,035	12,786	8,311	10,219	10,184
March ... ..	13,033	11,743	10,116	8,648	...
April ... ..	10,200	8,682	8,642	6,129	...
May ... ..	7,306	6,756	6,789	4,789	...
June ... ..	5,335	5,183	5,467	3,679	...

## 5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results, which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January ...	3,465	4,519	5,808	4,965	257	282	275	261	1,124	1,459	1,563	1,493
February ...	4,074	4,768	4,799	5,712	267	282	272	258	1,218	1,484	1,546	1,490
March ...	4,196	5,097	5,451	...	272	280	270	...	1,246	1,477	1,534	...
April ...	4,011	4,904	5,424	...	272	278	271	...	1,194	1,513	1,561	...
May ...	4,300	4,925	5,696	...	276	278	269	...	1,302	1,517	1,517	...
June ...	4,017	5,077	5,632	...	280	277	269	...	1,292	1,564	1,544	...
July ...	4,638	5,410	5,520	...	284	277	268	...	1,353	1,531	1,514	...
August ...	4,264	5,003	5,500	...	283	277	266	...	1,380	1,532	1,533	...
September ...	4,746	5,352	5,710	...	269	277	267	...	1,365	1,564	1,525	...
October ...	4,994	5,420	5,753	...	285	280	266	...	1,428	1,576	1,536	...
November ...	4,729	5,826	5,701	...	289	280	264	...	1,467	1,603	1,517	...
December ...	5,398	5,853	5,653	...	288	279	265	...	1,555	1,583	1,532	...
Average (January-December)	4,403	5,180	5,554	...	277	279	269	...	1,327	1,534	1,537	...

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

**6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.****(a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.**

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of March.				December Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total. New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No. of Permits.	Value.	
	£	£		£		£	£
1941 ...	857,393	57,732	571	685,319	838	614,748	3,176,227
1942 ...	55,985	10,141	13	10,695	100	52,279	587,402
1943 ...	104,515	4,752	11	15,808	70	43,037	402,011
1944 ...	158,572	86,069	21	18,480	...	...	...

\* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

**(b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.**

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building :—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (2)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<i>Sydney and Suburbs.</i>							
Month of March—							
1942	6	1	2	29	3	15	56
1943	3	2	1	81	2	16	105
1944	8	8	3	124	2	13	158
Nine months ended 31st Mar.,							
1942	3,019	608	878	840	57	278	5,680
1943	25	25	1	758	13	206	1,028
1944	34	44	12	755	8	198	1,051
<i>129 Industrial and Rural Towns.</i>							
December Quarter—							
1942	4	34	1	39	3	34	115
1943	6	26	1	34	5	25	97
Year ended 31st December—							
1942	136	384	14	107	22	151	814
1943	20	116	3	109	21	125	394

Includes (a) conversions to flats ; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

**(c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.**

In addition to totals for private building shown above, values of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales were as follow :—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of March.		Nine months ended 31st Mar.	
	1943.*	1944.	1943.*	1944.
	£000	£000/	£000	£000
Sydney and Suburbs ... ..	831	145	2,414	1,597
Remainder of State ... ..	171	102	1,762	607
Total, New South Wales ... ..	1,002	247	4,176	2,204

NOTE—Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.

\* Revised.

## SECTION B.—TRADE.

## 7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales-Tax Acts.  
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	192'97	200'29	202'79	229'03	238'65	240'54	...
January ...	14'21	13'24	16'33	15'83	18'69	17'18	18'02
February ...	15'73	16'54	14'64	17'48	19'39	21'60	20'48
March ...	15'79	15'78	16'97	17'40	19'53	19'44	...
April ...	16'83	15'79	17'88	19'06	19'19	21'88	...
May ...	16'87	17'46	14'85	18'75	20'72	19'56	...
June ...	14'98	14'88	17'07	21'76	18'93	20'91	...
July ...	16'23	15'28	16'74	17'63	19'17	19'81	...
August ...	15'29	16'81	17'17	20'41	20'86	18'75	...
September ...	17'45	19'44	17'48	21'60	19'59	19'93	...
October ...	15'66	19'22	18'50	18'25	22'06	20'80	...
November ...	16'93	17'53	18'13	20'58	19'54	21'07	...
December ...	17'00	18'32	17'03	20'28	20'98	19'61	...

## 8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid
Year ended December —								
1938 ...	303	303	+ 4'8	+ 5'2	+ 11'6	+ 5'0		
1939 ...	303	303	+ 2'4	+ 2'0	+ 2'6	+ 0'9		
1940 ...	303	305	+ 6'3	+ 17'0	+ 4'0	+ 1'9		
1941 ...	305	304	+ 14'6	+ 8'0	+ 9'0	+ 4'0		
1942 ...	304	304	— 5'3	+ 9'2	— 5'1	— 8'4		
1943 ...	303	306	— 11'3	— 6'8	— 9'7	— 17'6		
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
1943.								
February ...	24	24	— 27'5	+ 2'2	— 17'9	— 23'0	— 22'2	— 17'2
March ...	26	27	— 14'1	— 2'4	— 9'4	— 19'5	— 18'8	— 13'9
April ...	23	23	— 16'0	— 2'3	— 16'0	— 20'0	— 18'7	— 14'4
May ...	26	26	+ 0'8	— 11'1	— 11'1	— 19'7	— 0'8	— 12'2
June ...	25	26	— 1'3	— 10'2	— 7'6	— 15'7	— 6'0	— 11'7
July ...	27	27	— 25'5	— 7'7	— 8'3	— 14'7	— 8'2	— 9'0
August ...	26	26	— 20'7	— 11'4	— 7'0	— 15'0	— 16'2	— 7'6
September ...	26	26	— 11'5	— 10'0	— 6'8	— 14'6	— 19'3	— 7'3
October ...	26	25	— 9'9	— 9'1	— 7'5	— 13'2	— 14'3	— 7'1
November ...	25	26	— 1'7	— 10'1	— 3'8	— 12'2	— 7'7	— 6'0
December ...	24	25	+ 5'4	— 12'8	— 5'3	— 11'4	— 1'6	— 5'5
1944.								
January ...	25	23	— 10'0	— 12'6	— 5'5	— 11'0	— 1'1	— 4'9
February ...	24	25	+ 1'6	— 2'9	+ 1'9	— 7'4	— 0'2	— 3'2

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

## SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

## 9. RAILWAYS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of February.			Eight months ended February.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1942 ...	2,095,163	1,473,676	621,487	17,531,410	11,751,000	5,780,410
1943 ...	2,567,082	1,748,195	818,887	22,730,002	16,164,498	6,565,504
1944 ...	2,748,351	1,959,913	788,438	23,291,836	17,116,168	6,175,668

\* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £6,754,000 in 1942-43.

	Month of February.		Eight months ended February.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1942 ...	1,503	17,312	12,223	142,564
1943 ...	1,557	18,649	13,181	155,190
1944 ...	1,514	21,349	13,025	165,758

\* Partly estimated.

## 10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

## SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
Month of February—						
1942 ...	407,892	59,291	36,746	35,804	9,939	2,707
1943 ...	403,300	68,230	36,216	40,200	9,097	3,196
1944 ...	419,400	49,000	38,163	44,800	8,500	3,575
Eight months ended February—						
1942 ...	3,333,262	536,115	298,870	283,851	67,230	21,614
1943 ...	3,360,162	432,628	300,497	328,239	62,767	26,150
1944 ...	3,432,920	323,810	313,271	351,320	51,900	28,109

\* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation which amounted to £569,000 in 1942-43.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.



# NEW SOUTH WALES.

## 11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.  
(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1930. 31st August.	1942.		1943.			1944.	
		31st March.	31st December.	31st March.	30th June.	31st December.	29th February.	31st March.
Cars ...	216,633	173,494	172,028	172,805	173,188	177,245	178,299	178,986
Lorries and Vans ...	77,639	72,778	71,276	71,411	72,159	75,068	75,929	76,450
Trailers ...	6,538	7,057	6,818	6,784	6,873	7,409	7,609	7,679
Tractors† ...	1,102	1,368	1,375	1,389	1,382	1,429	1,443	1,455
Cycles—Solo ...	17,111	10,930	10,120	9,805	9,641	9,842	9,934	10,016
Cycles—Side-car ...	6,884	5,101	4,702	4,590	4,523	4,518	4,564	4,581
Omnibuses ...	794	885	901	913	913	913	924	931
Taxi-cabs ...	1,331	1,354	1,350	1,349	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,348
Traders' Plates ...	1,187	704	649	590	610	634	606	609
Total ...	329,219	273,671	269,219	269,636	270,638	278,406	280,656	282,055

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

### Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.\*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.
1939-40 ...	314	368	344	246	333	268	145	169	127	87	110	106
1940-41 ...	128	173	163	141	163	167	64	77	69	53	70	71
1941-42 ...	44	43	38	23	26	18	43	52	61	32	25	23
1942-43 ...	21	18	12	7	19	7	4	5	2	6	8	13
1943-44 ...	6	4	5	3	5	4	64	86	94	66	74	88

\* Excluding trailers.

## 12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.  
(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
March ...	427,964	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795
June ...	433,029	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044
September ...	432,795	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227
October ...	435,573	483,148	499,804	515,228	555,450
November ...	440,335	482,837	499,614	519,375	557,140
December ...	441,934	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381
January ...	444,522	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775
February ...	446,927	488,362	500,449	533,597	

## SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

### 13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits. †	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942.	1943.	1944.
1932 ...	£ 71,647,869	January ...	£ 92,972,902	£ 109,220,389	£ 146,283,258
1933 ...	72,307,685	February ...	90,647,010	112,817,955	150,374,605
1934 ...	75,714,070	March ...	89,458,641	115,641,889	154,153,971
1935 ...	77,906,402	April ...	91,110,603	115,500,011	.....
1936 ...	79,999,948	May ...	92,925,282	118,016,266	.....
1937 ...	81,952,399	June† ...	94,537,937	122,405,481	.....
1938 ...	86,015,685	July ...	97,330,938	126,688,719	.....
1939 ...	87,473,789	August ...	99,727,345	130,518,639	.....
1940 ...	82,110,000	September ...	101,385,379	134,162,891	.....
1941 ...	87,750,208	October ...	103,583,441	136,326,132	.....
1942 ...	94,537,937	November ...	104,929,899	138,328,054	.....
1943 ...	122,405,481	December ...	105,744,876	142,108,496	.....

† Including accrued interest.

† Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £14,779,460 as at 29th February, 1944, including £209,747 net receipts in February.

## 14. TRADING BANKS\*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	359,208	42,863	41,405	49,657	...	281,475
1941 ...	379,272	44,807	46,012	62,313	2,625	277,977
1942 ...	419,427	50,626	58,300	60,103	54,570	249,031
1943 ...	487,979	40,011	61,404	79,037	124,547	235,507

\*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

## 15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

March Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	60,410	65,852	126,262	116,880	9,382
1941 ...	71,478	66,474	137,952	111,160	26,792
1942 ...	82,727	67,467	150,194	108,608	41,586
1943 ...	101,438	62,513	163,951	95,356	68,595
1944 ...	145,140	87,206	232,346	120,018	112,328

## 16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	97	98	110	117	123	136	150
February ...	75.6	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	96	96	110	114	123	139	147
March ...	82.6	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	95	93	107	110	119	138	146
April ...	75.7	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	...	102	98	111	111	125	150	...
May ...	82.9	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	...	103	100	111	117	125	155	...
June ...	86.8	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	...	106	101	115	123	133	163	...
July ...	70.5	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	...	101	98	116	125	130	155	...
August ...	72.9	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	...	101	99	118	123	135	160	...
September ...	77.6	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	...	99	99	117	124	134	155	...
October ...	79.5	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	...	101	100	113	123	138	152	...
November ...	82.7	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	...	102	102	114	124	135	149	...
December ..	88.1	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	...	102	106	115	124	136	150	...
Year ...	942.4	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	...	101	100	113	120	131	151	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

## 17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
			Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated. 2 years.	Long- dated. 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1937 ... ..	5'3	5'0	3'44	3'75	3'84	...	...
1938 ... ..	5'4	5'0	3'38	3'71	3'73	...	...
1939 ... ..	5'6	5'2	3'84	3'87	3'92	...	...
1940 ... ..	5'6	5'1	3'14	3'25	3'30	...	...
1941 ... ..	5'5	4'9	2'45	2'95	3'10	...	...
1941 ... ..	5'5	4'9	2'42	2'87	3'13	2'47	3'23
1942 ... ..	5'4	4'9	2'39	2'89	3'11	2'45	3'24
1943 ... ..	5'0	4'7	2'43	2'72	2'96	2'48	3'23
Months—			2 years.	7 years.	12 years.		
1943—March ...	5'1	4'8	2'39	2'70	2'93	2'47	3'23
June ...	5'1	4'8	2'37	2'75	2'95	2'48	3'24
September ...	5'0	4'5	2'38	2'69	2'94	2'47	3'23
December ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'77	3'02	2'48	3'24
1944—January ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'75	3'04	2'47	3'24
February ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'70	3'00	2'48	3'24
March ...	5'0	4'5	2'40	2'69	3'02	2'48	3'24

\* Average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

## 18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.									
January ... ..	1,884	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,480	1,148	916	595	383
February ... ..	2,524	2,557	2,472	1,294	1,506	1,428	1,329	975	390	611
March ... ..	2,464	2,677	2,083	1,550	1,552	1,686	1,320	996	503	663
April ... ..	2,392	2,574	2,276	1,517	...	1,560	1,305	891	536	...
May ... ..	2,908	2,835	1,154	1,185	...	1,449	1,324	526	381	...
June ... ..	2,464	3,029	1,266	1,358	...	1,305	1,273	599	400	...
July ... ..	3,217	3,165	1,540	1,783	...	1,748	1,470	622	399	...
August ... ..	2,259	2,545	1,671	1,379	...	1,099	1,213	451	450	...
September ... ..	3,149	2,941	1,616	1,551	...	1,240	1,571	516	432	...
October ... ..	2,885	3,013	1,514	1,549	...	1,144	1,413	423	618	...
November ... ..	2,430	2,548	1,942	1,558	...	1,259	1,022	530	558	...
December ... ..	2,477	2,972	1,260	1,592	...	1,099	1,242	562	494	...
* Year ... ..	31,053	33,239	21,609	17,542	...	16,497	15,630	8,007	5,756	...

\* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

## 19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of March.			Three months ended 31st March.		
	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1941 ... ..	358,336	320,706	94,942	1,079,773	928,059	273,276
1942 ... ..	299,868	321,465	109,861	714,441	817,305	264,901
1943 ... ..	289,180	237,889	63,339	506,934	625,302	228,643
1944 ... ..	205,839	139,792	66,354	406,435	331,447	155,732

See note under Table 18. \* Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

## SECTION E.—GENERAL.

## 20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

## WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment. (Excluding Rural, Household, Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.
	(a)				(b)	(c)				(d)
MALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	103.2	275.7	378.9	...	94.5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	136.5	393.4	529.9	...	158.8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	141.5	404.8	546.3	25.8	202.1	53.6	78.2	41.3	43.3	52.5
Nov. ...	144.3	411.1	555.4	25.8	210.5	50.5	79.8	41.5	44.6	52.6
1942—July ...	158.6	376.0	534.6	25.4	213.3	44.2	80.3	32.3	36.0	46.0
Dec. ...	154.5	375.4	529.9	25.0	215.7	36.1	79.9	31.9	35.7	44.5
1943—Jan. ...	155.6	375.1	530.7	25.0	216.6	36.0	80.9	30.2	36.0	44.4
Feb. ...	156.7	372.7	529.4	24.7	217.2	34.5	81.0	29.8	36.1	44.3
Mar. ...	156.2	372.1	528.3	24.7	218.4	34.3	80.2	29.2	33.9	44.4
April ...	156.6	368.6	525.2	23.9	219.1	32.4	80.3	29.3	34.9	44.2
May ...	156.5	367.5	524.0	25.0	219.0	31.3	79.8	28.9	33.6	44.0
June ...	155.8	367.9	523.7	25.2	218.6	31.1	80.2	28.9	33.5	43.5
July ...	156.6	365.4	522.0	25.1	217.4	29.9	81.5	28.7	33.2	43.3
Aug. ...	155.9	364.9	520.8	25.0	217.5	30.9	80.2	28.5	33.6	43.4
Sept. ...	155.0	365.0	520.0	25.0	217.8	29.9	80.6	28.4	33.4	43.8
Oct. ...	154.9	364.9	519.8	25.1	217.9	29.2	80.8	28.3	33.4	43.9
Nov. ...	153.9	366.2	520.1	25.0	218.0	29.1	80.9	28.2	33.8	44.1
Dec. ...	152.6	369.2	521.8	24.7	217.3	28.8	80.9	29.7	33.5	44.5
1944—Jan. ...	152.5	369.6	522.1	24.6	217.9	28.1	81.5	28.4	34.1	44.8
Feb. ...	153.0	369.6	522.6	24.7	217.7	28.0	82.2	28.3	34.2	44.7
FEMALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	16.8	101.8	118.6	...	36.3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	19.4	148.6	168.0	...	59.3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	21.7	192.4	214.1	0.2	76.0	0.7	8.1	40.9	17.6	56.8
Nov. ...	23.0	201.5	224.5	0.2	80.7	0.7	8.4	42.9	19.4	58.0
1942—July ...	29.3	203.6	232.9	0.2	84.8	0.7	9.0	41.1	20.7	58.9
Dec. ...	35.1	208.9	244.0	0.2	91.1	0.7	10.6	41.9	21.0	59.8
1943—Jan. ...	36.4	206.2	242.6	0.2	90.4	0.7	10.8	40.4	21.2	60.1
Feb. ...	37.2	207.3	244.5	0.2	91.4	0.7	10.8	39.8	21.4	61.1
Mar. ...	38.7	207.8	246.5	0.2	92.6	0.7	11.4	39.7	21.0	61.6
April ...	39.8	208.1	247.9	0.2	93.8	0.7	11.6	39.3	21.1	61.7
May ...	41.0	206.9	247.9	0.2	93.9	0.7	11.7	39.1	20.8	62.0
June ...	42.9	206.8	249.7	0.2	94.6	0.7	12.3	39.1	20.7	62.2
July ...	45.8	204.1	249.9	0.2	94.6	0.7	12.9	38.5	20.5	62.3
Aug. ...	46.5	205.0	251.5	0.2	95.3	0.7	13.2	38.1	20.8	62.7
Sept. ...	46.7	206.5	253.2	0.2	96.4	0.7	13.1	38.0	20.8	63.3
Oct. ...	46.8	207.9	254.7	0.2	96.5	0.7	13.2	38.0	20.9	64.3
Nov. ...	47.0	208.3	255.3	0.2	96.2	0.7	13.4	38.3	20.8	64.4
Dec. ...	46.4	210.0	256.4	0.2	95.5	0.7	13.4	40.1	20.8	64.1
1944—Jan. ...	46.6	205.5	252.1	0.2	93.3	0.7	13.5	37.5	20.6	64.4
Feb. ...	47.2	205.5	252.7	0.2	93.1	0.7	13.8	37.3	20.6	64.8
TOTAL. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	120.0	377.5	497.5	...	130.8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	155.9	542.0	697.9	...	218.1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	163.2	597.2	760.4	26.0	278.1	54.3	86.3	82.2	60.9	109.3
Nov. ...	167.3	612.6	779.9	26.0	291.2	51.2	88.2	84.4	64.0	110.6
1942—July ...	187.9	579.6	767.5	25.6	298.1	44.9	89.3	73.4	56.7	104.9
Dec. ...	189.6	584.3	773.9	25.2	306.8	36.8	90.5	73.8	56.7	104.3
1943—Jan. ...	192.0	581.3	773.3	25.2	307.0	36.7	91.7	70.6	57.2	104.5
Feb. ...	193.9	580.0	773.9	24.9	308.6	35.2	91.8	69.6	57.5	105.4
Mar. ...	194.9	579.9	774.8	24.9	311.0	35.0	91.6	69.0	55.9	106.0
April ...	196.4	576.7	773.1	24.1	312.9	33.1	91.9	68.5	55.0	105.9
May ...	197.5	574.4	771.9	25.2	312.9	32.0	91.5	68.0	54.4	106.0
June ...	198.7	574.7	773.4	25.4	313.5	31.8	92.5	68.0	54.2	105.7
July ...	202.4	569.5	771.9	25.3	312.8	30.6	94.4	67.2	53.7	105.6
Aug. ...	202.4	569.9	772.3	25.2	312.8	31.6	93.4	66.6	54.4	106.1
Sept. ...	201.7	571.5	773.2	25.2	314.2	30.6	93.7	66.4	54.2	107.1
Oct. ...	201.7	572.8	774.5	25.3	314.4	29.9	94.0	66.3	54.3	108.2
Nov. ...	200.9	574.5	775.4	25.2	314.2	29.8	94.3	66.5	54.6	108.5
Dec. ...	199.6	579.2	778.8	24.9	312.8	29.5	94.3	69.8	54.3	108.6
1944—Jan. ...	199.1	575.1	774.2	24.8	311.2	28.8	95.0	65.9	54.7	109.2
Feb. ...	200.2	575.1	775.3	24.9	310.8	28.7	96.0	65.6	54.8	109.5

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers for July, 1943, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

NOTE.—Estimates of employment in principal industries shown above replace former data which related to Pay-roll Tax returns only.



## 21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).  
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
January ...	100	103	93	100	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155
February ...	100	105	95	100	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161
March ...	100	102	95	99	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	165
April ...	100	104	96	101	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	...
May ...	100	106	95	100	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	...
June ...	100	103	99	103	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	...
July ...	100	105	97	100	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	...
August ...	100	106	97	103	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	101	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	...
October ...	100	109	96	104	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	...
November ...	100	109	97	104	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	...
December ...	100	105	99	106	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	...
Year ...	100	105	96	102	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	...

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

## 22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
						Per cent.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4'3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10'1
1942—March ...	1,005	1,045	1,211	1,085	1,070	14'7
June ...	1,034	1,043	1,279	1,089	1,096	17'5
September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20'3
December ...	1,060	1,042	1,382	1,140	1,138	22'0
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22'3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24'9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23'7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22'5
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22'5

## 23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

Amount per week—Regular Rates.									
YEAR.		Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
		Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
		February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1939	...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1940	...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0
1941	...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0
1942	...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0
1943	...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0
1944	...	99 0	99 0	...	...	97 0	97 0	...	...

\* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

## 24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1929 ... ..	2	0.57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938 ... ..	2	0.14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939 ... ..	2	1.42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940 ... ..	2	2.95	18	14 6	22	9 11	292	19 8	10	13 1
1941 ... ..	2	4.26	19	11 4	22	12 11	295	1 6	10	13 8
1942 ... ..	2	4.66	21	9 9	22	2 11	285	9 1	10	9 1
1943 ... ..	2	4.63	22	19 2	23	15 2	283	1 6	10	9 0
1943—November ...	2	4.63	24	19 8	31	16 7	283	1 6	10	9 0
December ...	2	4.63	24	16 6	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
1944—January ...	2	4.63	25	1 6	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
February ...	2	4.63	24	3 3	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0
March ...	2	4.63	24	7 10	22	0 6	283	1 6	10	9 0

## 25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931 \$	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937 \$	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
1943—March...	233.8	180.3	138.1	133.2	251.1	178.4	195.6
June ...	234.7	177.8	141.3	132.8	254.1	179.7	196.2
July ...	235.4	181.4	143.2	133.0	254.1	181.0	197.6
August ...	235.7	189.2	145.2	133.1	254.1	182.7	198.9
Sept. ...	236.1	191.8	145.4	134.0	254.1	183.7	199.9
Oct. ...	236.5	192.8	146.6	134.3	254.1	184.3	200.3
Nov. ...	236.7	193.9	147.8	135.3	254.1	184.9	200.5
Dec. ...	236.9	193.8	148.2	135.0	254.1	185.2	200.4
1944—Jan. ...	237.1	193.8	148.3	135.0	254.1	185.4	200.6
Feb. ...	237.0	193.8	149.3	135.0	254.1	185.6	200.7
March...	237.1	194.0	149.7	135.1	254.1	185.7	200.7

\* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. \$ The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April, 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 30th September, 1943, was 2,867,165 or 39.6 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1941, 1,337,050).

## NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.  
28th April, 1944.